



## ***Texas Department of Insurance***

### ***Division of Workers' Compensation***

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution, MS-48

7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 • Austin, Texas 78744-1645

518-804-4000 telephone • 512-804-4811 fax • [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)

## ***MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION***

### ***GENERAL INFORMATION***

#### **Requestor Name and Address**

SOUTH TEXAS RADIOLOGY IMAGING CENTERS  
P.O. BOX 29490  
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78229-5907

#### **Respondent Name**

TRAVELERS PROPERTY CASUALTY CO

#### **Carrier's Austin Representative Box**

Box Number 05

#### **MFDR Tracking Number**

M4-12-0185-01

### ***REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY***

**Requestor's Position Summary:** "Patient stated services which were provided were covered under worker's compensation claim."

**Amount in Dispute:** \$54.08

### ***RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY***

**Respondent's Position Summary:** "The Provider contends they are entitled to reimbursement because "Patient stated services which were provided were covered under workers' compensation claim." The Claimant's employer enrolled in the HCN prior to the Claimant's date of injury, and the Claimant's injury is covered by the HCN. The Provider is not a contracted provider with Travelers' HCN. Neither the Provider nor the Claimant contacted the Carrier to obtain authorization to treat outside the HCN. Consequently, the non-HCN Provider is not entitled to reimbursement from the Carrier for treatment of a HCN claim."

**Response Submitted by:** Travelers, 1501 S. Mopac Expwy, Ste A-320, Austin, TX 78746

### ***SUMMARY OF FINDINGS***

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
February 09, 2011	73140	\$54.08	\$ 0.00

### ***FINDINGS AND DECISION***

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

#### **Background**

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.305 sets forth general provisions regarding dispute of medical bills.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.

3. Texas Insurance Code Chapter 1305 set outs the procedures for Workers' Compensation Health Care Networks.

4. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:

Explanation of benefits dated March 11 and May 25, 2011

- HCND 45 – Charges exceeds fee sch/mas allowable or contracted/legislated fee arrangement. You are not an authorized Travelers HCN Provider. At this time your services are being denied by the claim adjuster
- PAYF W1 – Workers Compensation State Fee Schedule adjustment. This procedure/service code is reimbursed based on your State Workers' Compensation Medical Fee Schedule.

### **Issues**

1. Is the Requestor eligible for Medical Fee Dispute Resolution pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.305 and §133.307?

### **Findings**

1. This dispute was filed at the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (Division), Medical Fee Dispute Resolution section on September 19, 2011 for resolution pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307.

28 Texas Administrative Code §133.305 (a)(4) defines a Medical Fee Dispute as "A dispute that involves an amount of payment for non-network health care rendered to an injured employee (employee) that has been determined to be medically necessary and appropriate for the treatment of that employee's compensable injury." Non-network health care is defined in Section (a)(6) of the same rule as "Health care not delivered, or arranged by a certified workers' compensation health care network as defined in Insurance Code Chapter 1305 and related rules..." 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 (a)(1) similarly states that "This section applies to a request for medical fee dispute resolution for non-network or certain authorized out-of-network health care..." Therefore, pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, the Divisions Medical Fee Dispute Resolution section may not address fee disputes involving health care delivered, or arranged by a certified network as defined by Insurance Code Chapter 1305, but may resolve disputes involving certain authorized out-of-network health care.

Out-of-network health care is defined in Insurance Code Chapter 1305, section 1305.006 titled Insurance Carrier Liability for Out-of-Network Health Care. Explanation of benefits indicates that the Provider is not an authorized Travelers HCN Provider. No documentation was found to support that the health care in dispute is authorized, out-of-network health care pursuant to Insurance Code Chapter 1305. Therefore, the dispute may not be resolved pursuant to 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, and Medical Fee Dispute Resolution is not the appropriate venue for resolution of the dispute filed by the requestor.

### **Conclusion**

For the reasons stated above, the Division concludes that Medical Fee Dispute is not the appropriate venue for resolution of the issued raised by the requestor. As a result, the amount ordered is \$0.00.

### ***ORDER***

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

### **Authorized Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer

4/25/12  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### ***YOUR RIGHT TO REQUEST AN APPEAL***

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to request an appeal. A request for hearing must be in writing and it must be received by the DWC Chief Clerk of Proceedings within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. A request for hearing should be sent to: Chief Clerk of Proceedings, Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers Compensation, P.O. Box 17787, Austin, Texas, 78744. The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request for a hearing to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the

request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §148.3(c), including a **certificate of service demonstrating that the request has been sent to the other party**.

**Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.**